

BIENNIAL HARVEST SPECIFICATIONS FOR 2019-2020 FISHERIES – FINAL ACTION

In September and November 2017, the Council adopted 2019 and 2020 harvest specifications (overfishing limits [OFLs], acceptable biological impacts [ABCs]), and annual catch limits [ACLs]) for the actively-managed groundfish stocks and stock complexes. The Council adopted revised 2019-2020 lingcod and 2020 bocaccio harvest specifications, and confirmed their preference for the default yelloweye rockfish overfishing probability (P^*) of 0.4 at the March 2018 meeting. Final preferred harvest specifications are to be decided under this agenda item. In March, the Council also received a briefing ([Agenda Item H.7, Supplemental Attachment 4](#)) on selected analyses and predicted effects of alternative ACLs to inform decision-making under this agenda item. Materials informing this decision include the draft Environmental Assessment (Attachment 1), excerpted harvest specification tables from Attachment 1 (Attachment 2), and Appendix A of the draft Environmental Assessment, which is the analysis of the Integrated Alternatives (Attachment 3).

The Council was advised by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in March that any change to the yelloweye rockfish default harvest control rule would require implementation of a new rebuilding plan for yelloweye rockfish (see [Agenda Item H.7.a, Supplemental NMFS Report 2](#)). If the Council does decide to change the yelloweye rockfish default harvest control rule and rebuilding plan at this meeting, it is advised this decision should be characterized as preliminary preferred with the expectation that a final decision will be made in June. This will allow for any additional analysis NMFS deems necessary to support a final decision on the yelloweye rebuilding plan.

The Council will receive recommendations from Council advisory bodies; state, Federal, and tribal agencies; and the public to aid in making these decisions.

Council Action:

Adopt final preferred alternative for 2019 and 2020 harvest specifications for groundfish stocks and stock complexes.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 1: 2019-2020 Groundfish Harvest Specifications and Management Measures: Description and Analysis for Council Decision-making (**Electronic Only**).
2. Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 2: 2019 and 2020 Groundfish Harvest Specifications.
3. Agenda Item F.2, Attachment 3: Draft Appendix A: Integrated Alternatives.

Agenda Order:

- F.2 Biennial Harvest Specifications for 2019-2020 Fisheries – Final Action John DeVore
- a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Adopt Final Preferred Harvest Specifications for 2019-2020 Fisheries

PFMC
03/22/18